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**STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals**

In the Matter of

[REDACTED]

DECISION

MPA/143980

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed September 20, 2012, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03(1), to review a decision by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability in regard to Medical Assistance, a hearing was held on October 25, 2012, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The issue for determination is whether the Division correctly denied a prior authorization request for Pediasure for the Petitioner.

There appeared at that time and place the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:

[REDACTED]

Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

By: Written submission of Lynn Radmer, R.Ph.
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
1 West Wilson Street, Room 272
P.O. Box 309
Madison, WI 53707-0309

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

David D. Fleming
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner is a resident of Milwaukee County.

2. A prior authorization request seeking Wisconsin Medicaid payment for Pediasure with fiber was filed on behalf of Petitioner by his provider, the Aurora Visiting Nurse Association, on or about August 3, 2012. The request was for eight cans of the Pediasure with fiber per day for a year and was to supply Petitioner's entire caloric intake. The cost was noted to be \$890.40 per month.
3. Pediasure is a commercially prepared enteral nutritional supplement/replacement food product for children.
4. The prior authorization request noted at Finding # 2 was denied. The Division's basis for denial was the request did not satisfy Medicaid guidelines for approval. Medicaid does not pay for ordinary food. The Medicaid program will only cover enteral nutrition products if the patient has been diagnosed with one of the following medical conditions:
 - a severe swallowing disorder due to oral-pharyngeal tissue injury, lesions or defect,
 - pathology of the gastrointestinal tract that prevents digestion, absorption or utilization of the nutrients that cannot otherwise be medically managed or
 - transitioning from use of the feeding tube to an oral diet.
5. Petitioner is 14 years of age (06/19/1998). His diagnosis concludes Hirschsprung's disease (A disease of the large intestine that causes severe constipation or intestinal obstruction. Typically it is treated with a surgical procedure), dysplasia (difficulty in swallowing) not otherwise specified, respiratory abnormalities and feeding difficulty. Petitioner's medical records also indicate that he has had a tracheostomy. His height was documented to be 60.9 inches and his weight to be 89.2 pounds.

DISCUSSION

Medically necessary food replacement enteral and parenteral products can be a Medicaid covered service but are subject to prior authorization. *Wis. Admin. Code §DHS 107.10(1),(2)(c)*. Pediasure is a high calorie food replacement product. The Code only allows for Medicaid coverage of such a product if it is medically necessary and used for the treatment of severe health conditions, such as pathologies of the gastrointestinal tract or metabolic disorders. Additionally, as with all prior authorizations, the item or service must pass the generic prior authorization criteria found at §107.02(3)(e), which include the requirements that the item be medically necessary, appropriate, and cost effective.

The standards necessary for approval of the request here are quite specific. There is nothing in the record here to indicate that Petitioner has an oral pharyngeal tissue injury, or defect; pathology of the gastrointestinal tract preventing digestion or is transitioning from tube feeding to an oral diet.

And it is also worth noting that the Department makes a number of suggestions as to other nutritional sources that are readily available in grocery stores. It does not appear that these have been tried for Petitioner as of the date of this prior authorization request and subsequent denial. Of particular note are Carnation Instant Breakfast powder product which, with 1 cup of lactose free whole milk, would provide Petitioner with about 280 calories per cup and ordinary whole chocolate milk which provides 210 calories per cup (Pediasure is 240 cal/can).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

That the evidence offered on behalf of Petitioner is not sufficient to demonstrate that this request for Medicaid payment for Pediasure meets the standards necessary for approval.

THEREFORE, it is

ORDERED

That this appeal is dismissed.

REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

This is a final administrative decision. If you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law, you may request a rehearing. You may also ask for a rehearing if you have found new evidence which would change the decision. Your request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and tell why you did not have it at your first hearing. If you do not explain these things, your request will have to be denied.

To ask for a rehearing, send a written request to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, P.O. Box 7875, Madison, WI 53707-7875. Send a copy of your request to the other people named in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your request for a rehearing must be received no later than 20 days after the date of the decision. Late requests cannot be granted.

The process for asking for a rehearing is in Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes can be found at your local library or courthouse.

APPEAL TO COURT

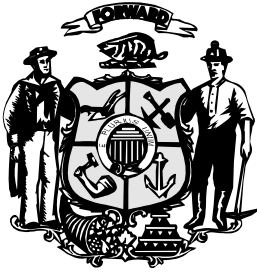
You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be served and filed with the appropriate court no more than 30 days after the date of this hearing decision (or 30 days after a denial of rehearing, if you ask for one).

For purposes of appeal to circuit court, the Respondent in this matter is the Department of Health Services. After filing the appeal with the appropriate court, it must be served on the Secretary of that Department, either personally or by certified mail. The address of the Department is: 1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. A copy should also be sent to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400.

The appeal must also be served on the other "PARTIES IN INTEREST" named in this decision. The process for appeals to the Circuit Court is in Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53.

Given under my hand at the City of Milwaukee,
Wisconsin, this 4th day of December, 2012

\sDavid D. Fleming
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Hearings and Appeals



State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

David H. Schwarz
Suite 201
5005 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53705-5400

Telephone: (608) 266-3096
FAX: (608) 264-9885
email: DHAmail@wisconsin.gov
Internet: <http://dha.state.wi.us>

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on December 4, 2012.

Division of Health Care Access And Accountability